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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Wittenberg 25X1

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 25 November 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. On 30 October 1953, the Beseler Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including 800 to 900 troops with tank insignia. Ten to 15 trucks, about 50 T-34 tanks, including [redacted]

25X1 JS-3 tank [redacted] and L JSU-122 gun were seen in front of the tank sheds. Between 10 and 30 October, major groups of soldiers received infantry training with and without weapons in the barracks yard. Units up to 100 men were repeatedly seen marching to the Teuchel training area. Radio trucks [redacted] and trucks and sedans [redacted]

25X1 were seen en route to and from the installation.

25X1

25X1

2. On 30 October, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with tank insignia. Source believed that the installation was occupied as previously by a tank and a maintenance unit. Tanks in need of repair arrived at the installation from the Beseler Kaserne and the Arado installation. On 28 October, 8 T-34/85 tanks, [redacted]

25X1 [redacted], were seen in front of the tank sheds of the installation. Groups of soldiers received infantry training in the barracks yard and groups up to 200 troops returned from the Euper training area.

25X1

3. On 30 October, the Arado installation was occupied by an estimated 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including about 200 troops with tank insignia. The small quartering building was occupied by about 100 to 120 soldiers with tank insignia. Except for 25 soldiers of the maintenance unit, they belonged to the tank crews. The large quartering building was occupied by about 200 recruits. During the second half of October, 4 JSU-122 guns,

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25X1

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25X1

2 JS-3 tanks and 12 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] were seen in the installation. In late October, the installation quartered 31 tank trucks.²

25X1

25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. The occupation strength of the Beseler Kaserne and the Flak Kaserne, in late October, did not yet correspond to a full occupation by each two tank regiments. [redacted]

25X1

25X1 [redacted] the 53d Gds Tank Regt had not yet returned to the Flak Kaserne from Werder-Markendorf by late October. Elements of the 7th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt stationed in the Beseler Kaserne presumably did not yet return either.

25X1

25X1 2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the Arado installation is occupied as previously by the tank training battalion.

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